

SMOKY CANYON MINE
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January 7, 2015

US EPA

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IDAHO OPERATIONS OFFICE

Mary Kauffman
OSC/RPM
Caribou-Targhee National Forest
1405 Hollipark Dr.
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401

**RE: MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT
SMOKY CANYON MINE
REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY
December 2014**

Dear Mary,

This monthly progress report describes activities associated with the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the Smoky Canyon Mine pursuant to the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent/Consent Order for RI/FS.

Simplot has been working on the following elements of the RI/FS:

1. RI Characterization and Reporting
2. Pilot Studies
3. Risk Assessment

December 2014 activities associated with these elements are described below.

RI Characterization and Reporting

A pilot boring for the planned monitoring well at the GW-29 location was completed and an additional boring completed nearby (100 feet) for groundwater level observation during a pumping test. A 5-day pumping test was completed in December. The pilot borings remain open; GW-29 will be completed into a monitoring well when access permits in the summer of 2015 and the observation boring will be plugged.

Pilot Studies

Operation and monitoring of the semi-passive biological water treatment pilot study at the DS-7 seep continued (start-up was in mid-July 2013).

Simplot is preparing information on potential cover materials for overburden disposal areas, as requested by the Agencies to better understand the rationale for the pilot study proposed to test the performance of potential cover materials.



Risk Assessment

Analyses for the Site-Specific Ecological Risk Assessment (SSERA) and Site-Specific Human Health Risk Assessment (SSHHRA) were completed and the draft SSERA Report and draft SSHHRA Report (both dated December 15, 2014) were delivered to the Agencies on December 16, 2014.

Analyses for the Site-Specific Livestock Risk Assessment (SSLRA) have continued, with submittal of the SSLRA Report due to the agencies by February 13, 2015.

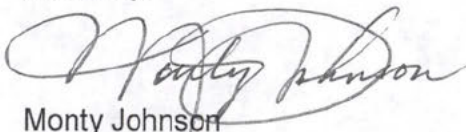
Upcoming Activities

The following activities are anticipated or planned in January and February:

- Ongoing operation and monitoring of the pilot study for semi-passive biological water treatment at the DS-7 seep, with adjustments to address winter conditions.
- Analyses, preparation, and submittal of the draft SSLRA Report.
- Construction as required for the Hoopes Spring fluidized bed bioreactor pilot study treatment system.
- Preparation of additional information as requested by the Agencies to better understand the rationale for the proposed cover system materials pilot study to identify and evaluate material properties and the performance of potential cover materials for overburden disposal areas and backfilled pits.

Please contact me if there are questions regarding this monthly progress report.

Sincerely,



Monty Johnson
Environmental Engineering Manager

cc: Mary Kauffman – USDA Forest Service, 410 East Hooper, Soda Springs, ID 83276
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